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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

Attorney Docket Number	7156-70278-01
Application Number	10/767,539
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First Named Inventor	Filho
Art Unit	3752
Examiner Name	Patrick F. Brinson

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Copies of U.S. Patent documents do not need to be provided, unless requested by the Patent and Trademark Office. For patents, provide the patent number and the issue date. For published U.S. applications, provide the publication number and the publication date. For unpublished pending patent applications, provide the application number and the filing date.

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Number	Publication Date	Name of Applicant or Patentee
<i>PFB</i>		5,526,846	06/18/1996	Maloberti et al. <i>135 09</i>
		6,220,303	4/24/2001	Secher Philippe et al. <i>138 110</i>

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Country	Number	Publication Date	Name of Applicant or Patentee
<i>PFB</i>		Europe	EP 0911482	04/28/1999	Deep Oil Technology, Incorporated

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	OTHER DOCUMENTS
<i>PFB</i>		"Bend Stiffener Connector System," MIB International Ltd. website <a href="http://www.mibitaliana.it/bend.html">http://www.mibitaliana.it/bend.html</a> , 2 pages (publication date unknown).
<i>/</i>		"OrcaBend-Bend Stiffener Optimisation Software," Orcina Limited, 4 pages (publication date unknown).
		PCT International Search Report for PCT Application No. PCT/GB2005/000264.

EXAMINER SIGNATURE: <i>Patrick F. Brinson</i>	DATE CONSIDERED: <i>14 December 2005</i>
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\* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through cite if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.